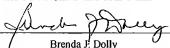


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on 7/18/07.

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 025929-000200US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: _____


Brenda F. Dolly

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Rush E. Simonson

Application No.: 10/696,727

Filed: October 28, 2003

For: VERTEBRAL IMPLANTS
ADAPTED FOR POSTERIOR
INSERTION

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 6338

Examiner: Michael J. Araj

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3733

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the non-final office action mailed January 18, 2007, for which a petition is submitted to extend time for three months from April 18, 2007 to July 18, 2007, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.